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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

25X1.

COUNTRY Bolivia

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE DISTR. 8 JUNE 1949

SUBJECT Proposed Bolivian Census of Foreigners

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1A

1. The confusion in the records of the Bolivian Immigration Service which was graphically pointed up by the case of Gustav Bodansky's illegal immigration ring has prompted authorities to plan a census of all foreigners in the country.* The government feels that the susceptibility of consular and immigration officials to bribery and favors has enabled many foreigners of dubious antecedents to enter the country.
2. At present there are no statistics on the number of foreigners in the country. Before the Catavi riots broke out on 23 May, it was planned to begin taking the census of foreigners within a few weeks. A charge of 300 bolivianos per person was to be made to cover the cost of the census. Employees of foreign governments will be exempted from payment of the fee and from the majority of the formal requirements.
3. [REDACTED] there are some 30,000 foreigners resident in Bolivia. Included in this figure are about 5000 Spaniards, between 5000 and 7000 Peruvians, between 3000 and 4000 Argentines, and 5000 Jews.

25X1A [REDACTED] Comment. [REDACTED] stated that Bolivian authorities admitted that their files have been so compromised that they have no idea who may be in the country illegally.

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